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**BOWIE MAN SENTENCED TO OVER TWO YEARS FOR STEALING ATMs
IN MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA**

Defendant Ordered to Pay Restitution of \$423,388 in Losses

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Eric Thomas aka "Dukie," age 48, of Bowie, Maryland, was sentenced today to 27 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release for bank larceny, and aiding and abetting bank larceny, arising from a conspiracy to steal Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and their contents, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein. U.S. District Judge Catherine C. Blake also ordered that Thomas pay restitution of \$423,388.

Thomas and five other defendants were indicted on March 1, 2006 for conspiracy to commit bank larceny by stealing several ATMs in various locations in Maryland and Virginia. According to the plea agreement presented on September 12, 2006 to the court, in February, 2005 Thomas and his co-conspirators stole an ATM and its contents of about \$5,804 from the Davis General Store in Fairfax Park, Virginia. On July 3, 2005 Thomas and others stole an ATM and its contents of about \$101,000 from the Bank of America on Old Bridge Road in Woodbridge, Virginia. On September 1, 2005 Thomas and others attempted to steal an ATM from the Bank of America on Prince William Parkway in Woodbridge, Virginia, and attempted to saw into the ATM's hinges and pull the doors off of the front. On October 2, 2005 Thomas and others stole an ATM and its contents of about \$56,820 from the Bank of America on Prince William Parkway in Woodbridge, Virginia. On October 14, 2005 Thomas and others stole an ATM from the Bank of America in the Bowie Town Center, Bowie, Maryland. Thomas drove the co-conspirators in his van to a location to steal a truck and drove the others to the bank. After the ATM was pulled from its foundation and loaded into the truck, Thomas drove his co-conspirators in the van to a wooded area, where he and another individual cut into the ATM with a saw, and stole about \$109,764.

The approximate cost of replacing the five ATMs stolen or attempted to be stolen is \$150,000. Along with the stolen cash described above, the total amount of loss attributed to Thomas is \$423,388.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein praised the investigative work performed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Rosenstein thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Stephanie A. Gallagher and Michael J. Leotta, who prosecuted the case.